



Voices of Orot - Monthly Newsletter

August/Av, 5786



Dear Orot Friends,

Building Hope for the Future

"Zion shall be redeemed through justice, and those who return to her through righteousness." (Isaiah 1:27)

As we enter the month of Av, we reflect on both the challenges and the enduring strength of the Jewish people. This is a time that reminds us not only of what has been lost, but of our responsibility to rebuild—with faith, purpose, and hope.

At Orot Israel College, that rebuilding takes shape every day through the preparation of dedicated educators who will strengthen classrooms, communities, and future generations across Israel. As one academic year comes to a close and we prepare to welcome new students in the months ahead, we remain committed to nurturing teachers whose Torah values, professional excellence, and sense of mission will leave a lasting impact.

Thank you for standing with Orot and helping us invest in the future of Jewish education. We wish you and your families a meaningful month of Av, and may we merit to see comfort, renewal, and brighter days ahead.



Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu Inspires Future Teachers

As they prepare to enter the classroom as professional educators, graduating students at Orot Israel College recently participated in a special day-long conference designed to support their transition from students to teachers. The event provided practical workshops on topics such as teaching alongside artificial intelligence, choosing the right school environment, and succeeding in job interviews, equipping participants with valuable tools as they begin their teaching internships and careers in education.

A highlight of the day was the participation of Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu, who offered words of encouragement and emphasized the sacred responsibility of educating the next generation of the Jewish people. Joining him were College President Professor Hildesheimer, Rebbetzin Ruti Shapira, Head of Undergraduate Studies, representatives of the Religious State Education supervisory staff, and Rabbi Yona Goodman. The conference reflected the college's commitment to preparing teachers who enter the field with professional excellence, strong values, and a deep sense of mission.



The Dance Department recently held its final performance, marking the culmination of a year of intensive study, creativity, and artistic growth. Throughout their training, the students developed strong technical skills alongside expressive and choreographic abilities, bringing together discipline and artistry in a moving and memorable production. As they complete the program, the graduates are poised to take their talents in a variety of directions—some will continue into professional dance and performance, others may pursue teaching, choreography, or movement-based education, and many will integrate their artistic skills into community, educational, or therapeutic settings. Whatever paths they choose, they carry forward a deep foundation in dance and a commitment to using movement as a meaningful form of expression and impact.

As this year's graduates leave Orot and prepare to enter classrooms and communities across Israel, they do so at a time when the need for dedicated educators has never been greater. Throughout the country, schools are facing a growing shortage of qualified teachers. In regions such as the Golan, communities are actively seeking educators who can do more than teach a subject—they are looking for leaders, mentors, and role models who can help shape the future of the next generation.

At Orot, we are proud to prepare graduates for exactly this mission. Armed with professional training, Torah values, and a commitment to educational excellence, our graduates are ready to make a difference wherever they are called to serve.

As we celebrate their achievements, we also look toward the future. New initiatives and expanded programs will help Orot continue addressing Israel's growing educational needs, ensuring that schools and communities have the talented educators they need to thrive. Today's graduates are more than the end of one academic year—they are the beginning of countless stories of impact yet to be written.

"Orot gave me the tools, guidance, and values to become the educator I aspire to be. I am excited to bring my passion for dance into the classroom and help the next generation learn, grow, and thrive."

— Chedva Manats, Graduate, Dance Education



Graduate Spotlight: Meet Miriam

Program: B.A. in Talmud

Why did you choose to study at Orot?

I wanted an environment where serious Torah learning and academic excellence could go hand in hand. Orot offered me the opportunity to deepen my understanding of Talmud while preparing for a meaningful future in education and community leadership.



What has been the most meaningful part of your studies?

The opportunity to engage deeply with our Torah sources and to learn how they continue to guide us in addressing contemporary challenges. The Beit Midrash environment encouraged me to ask questions, think critically, and grow both intellectually and spiritually.

How has Orot prepared you for the future?

Beyond the academic knowledge I gained, Orot taught me the importance of responsibility, leadership, and lifelong learning. The faculty challenged us to think not only about what we learn, but how we can share that knowledge with others.

What are your plans after graduation?

I hope to continue teaching and learning while helping others develop a deeper connection to Torah. Whether in the classroom, the Beit Midrash, or the community, I want to inspire others to appreciate the richness and relevance of Jewish learning.

What message would you like to share with Orot supporters?

I am grateful to everyone who invests in Orot's students. Your support makes it possible for us to pursue our studies and prepare for lives of service, education, and leadership.

"The Torah we learn today becomes the foundation for the communities we will help build tomorrow." -Miriam

The banner features the Orot Israel logo on the left, which includes a menorah and the text 'Orot Israel Academic College for Education' and 'Established by Moshavet Yaakov College & Orot Israel College'. The main text reads: 'THIS FALL, A FUTURE TEACHER WILL ENTER THE CLASSROOM FOR THE FIRST TIME.' Below this, it states: 'Students are preparing now for the new academic year. Your support today helps prepare the next generation of Torah-centered educators who will impact hundreds of students throughout their careers.' On the right, there is a photo of three students in a classroom setting. Below the photo, a heart icon is next to the text 'SPONSOR A FUTURE EDUCATOR FOR JUST \$2,000.' and a button that says 'SUPPORT A STUDENT TODAY >'. At the bottom, there are four icons with corresponding text: 1. A graduation cap icon with '1 STUDENT receives a Torah-centered education.' 2. A teacher at a blackboard icon with '1 TEACHER enters the classroom inspired and prepared.' 3. A group of people icon with 'HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS are influenced, inspired and empowered.' 4. A Star of David icon with 'STRONGER JEWISH COMMUNITIES for generations to come.' The bottom of the banner has a dark blue bar with the text 'THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS SOON. | Your gift today makes tomorrow's impact possible. Thank you for being part of our mission.' and a heart icon.

Building Israel's Future, One Teacher at a Time

Israel is facing a growing shortage of qualified teachers, creating an urgent need for talented educators who can inspire the next generation.

Through the Orot 1500 Initiative, Orot Israel College is expanding programs and training opportunities to prepare 1,500 new educators over the next five years. From science and mathematics to Jewish thought and educational leadership, these future teachers will help strengthen communities across Israel.

\$2,000 → 1 Student → 1 Teacher → Hundreds of Lives Impacted

Every teacher begins as a student. An investment of just \$2,000 helps prepare one future educator whose influence will extend far beyond the classroom, shaping students, families, and communities for years to come.

As we prepare to welcome a new academic year, we invite you to partner with us in building the future of Jewish education.



Visiting Israel soon?

We'd love to welcome you to Orot!
Come tour our campus, meet our students,
and experience the heart of our community.

[Click here](#) to email us to schedule your visit



As we prepare to welcome a new class of students this fall, your support helps ensure that the next generation of educators receives the training, mentorship, and Torah foundation needed to shape Jewish communities for years to come.

Sponsor a future educator for \$2,000



See you in our next newsletter...